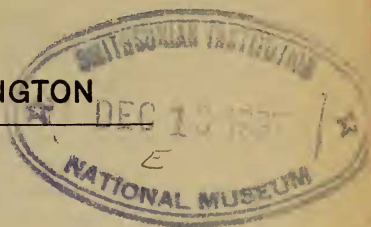


PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON



NATURAL HISTORY OF PLUMMERS ISLAND,
MARYLAND.

VI. REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS.¹

BY M. K. BRADY.

The present list of 39 species is based on the records of the Washington Biologists' Field Club up to June, 1936, and on the writer's field notes made during nearly a decade of study of these forms on the Club property. The list includes 9 salamanders, 9 frogs, 1 lizard, 11 snakes and 9 turtles. Except in the case of forms recorded on the basis of only one or two specimens, mention of the general habitat on the property and relative abundance is given for each species listed. The common names used are those which seem to enjoy the most widespread acceptance among naturalists. A list of six forms found in the immediate vicinity of the property and likely to be encountered on it is appended. Species definitely known only from the mainland property of the Club are marked with an asterisk.

CAUDATA. SALAMANDERS.

**Triturus viridescens viridescens* (Rafinesque). Newt.

Ponds and canal. Common, breeds late spring through early summer.

**Ambystoma jeffersonianum* (Green). Jefferson's Salamander.

Breeds in the ponds in February. Known from eggs only on the property.

**Ambystoma maculatum* (Shaw). Spotted Salamander.

Breeds in the ponds in March.

**Ambystoma opacum* (Gravenhorst). Marbled Salamander.

Breeds in the ponds in the early fall.

Hemidactylum scutatatum (Schlegel). Four-toed Salamander.

One record for the Island (Nov. 9, 1910). Breeds in ponds in March.

¹ The following numbers of this series have been published previously; I (Introduction) Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash. 48 : 115-117. 1935; II (Flowering plants and ferns), l. c. 118-134; III (Mosses), l. c. 135-137; IV (Birds), l. c. 159-167; V (Fungi), *op. cit.*: 49 : 123-131. 1936.

Plethodon cinereus (Green). Gray Salamander, Red-backed Salamander.

Only salamander breeding on the Island, in late spring. Common form.

**Eurycea bislineata bislineata* (Green). Two-lined Salamander.

Occurs in Rock Run.

Eurycea longicauda (Green). Long-tailed Salamander.

One example taken on the Island (H. W. Henshaw, July 30, 1905).

**Desmognathus fuscus fuscus* (Rafinesque). Dusky Salamander.

Common in Rock Run.

SALIENTIA. FROGS AND TOADS.

Rana clamitans Latreille. Green Frog.

An abundant form.

Rana palustris Le Conte. Pickerel Frog.

Occasional on upper end of Island. Common in the canal.

Rana sylvatica Le Conte. Wood Frog.

Occasional on Island. Common on mainland.

Bufo fowleri Hinckley. Fowler's Toad.

The most abundant toad, calling from late April to August.

Bufo americanus americanus Holbrook. American Toad.

Less abundant. Calls from late February through March.

Acris gryllus (Le Conte). Cricket Frog.

Common. Canal and shores of channel. Chorus begins in May.

Pseudacris nigrita feriarum (Baird). Swamp Tree Frog.

Abundant. Chorus starts in February.

Hyla crucifer Wied. Spring Peeper.

Abundant. Chorus follows soon after that of above form.

Hyla versicolor versicolor (Le Conte). Tree Frog.

Breeds in ponds and canal in May. Calls continue through mid-summer. Island and mainland.

SAURIA. LIZARDS.

Eumeces fasciatus (Linné). Skink.

Apparently the only lizard on the Island. Abundant.

SERPENTES. SNAKES.

Carphophis amoena amoena (Say). Worm Snake.

Fairly common, Island and mainland.

Diadophis punctatus edwardsii (Merrem). Ring-necked Snake.

Relatively abundant, Island and mainland.

Heterodon contortrix (Linné). Hog-nosed Snake.

Recorded on the Island May 20, 1906 (W. Palmer) and May 4, 1913 (W. O. Emery).

Ophedryx aestivus (Linné). Rough-scaled Green Snake.

Not uncommon on Island and mainland. The record for *Liopeltis vernalis* probably indicates this species.

Coluber constrictor constrictor (Linné). Black Snake, Racer.

Fairly frequent on the property.

Elaphe obsoleta obsoleta (Say). Pilot Black Snake.

This black snake is seen more often than the preceding species.

- **Lampropeltis triangulum triangulum* (Lacepède). Milk Snake.
Two records for mainland, field near garden, May 30, 1918, May 18, 1924.
- Natrix sipedon sipedon* (Linné). Banded Water Snake.
Common, canal and river.
- **Natrix septemvittata* (Say). Queen Snake.
Occasional, along the canal.
- Thamnophis sirtalis sirtalis* (Linné). Garter Snake.
Frequent occurrence, Island and mainland.
- Agkistrodon mokasen* Beauvois. Copperhead.
Infrequent on the Island. The species is clearly on the decline in this area.

TESTUDINATA. TURTLES.

- Sternotherus odoratus* (Latreille). Musk Turtle.
Canal, channel and river, especially along southeast end of Island.
Apparently not uncommon.
- **Kinosternon subrubrum subrubrum* (Lacepède). Mud Turtle.
Occasional, in the canal at low water.
- Chelydra serpentina* (Linné). Snapping Turtle.
Common in the river about the Island.
- **Clemmys guttata* (Schneider). Spotted Turtle.
Canal and ponds. Abundant.
- Clemmys insculpta* (Le Conte). Wood Turtle.
Occasional, mainland and Island.
- Pseudemys rubriventris* (Le Conte). Red-bellied Terrapin.
Not uncommon in the river around the Island.
- Pseudemys floridana concinna* (Le Conte). Yellow-bellied Terrapin.
This slider is probably not as abundant as the preceding species in our area.
- Chrysemys picta picta* (Schneider). Painted Turtle.
Plentiful in the canal, river and ponds.
- Terrapene carolina* (Linné). Box Turtle.
Very abundant, Island and mainland.

LIST OF SPECIES FOUND IN IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF THE CLUB PROPERTY.

- Pseudotriton ruber ruber* (Sonnini). Red Salamander.
Found between river and canal both above and below Island property.
- Plethodon glutinosus* (Green). Slimy Salamander.
Found at Carderrock and on the Maryland shore across the canal from the property.
- Sceloporus undulatus* (Latreille). Fence Lizard.
Found on Herzog's and other high islands and in the Carderrock area.
- Storeria dekayi* (Holbrook). De Kay's Snake.
Maryland shore near the property.
- Virginia valeriae valeriae* (Baird & Girard). Virginia Snake.
Wooded region between canal and river half mile above Island.
- Clemmys muhlenbergii* (Schoepff). Muhlenberg's Turtle.
One specimen taken at Stubblefield, 1924. Species reported between canal and river in vicinity of the Island.